



STATE OF MICHIGAN

JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT & BUDGET
LANSING

LISA WEBB SHARPE
DIRECTOR

For immediate release:

February 7, 2007

For additional information, contact:

Edward Woods III, Director of Communications
Department of Management and Budget
(517) 241-8619

Michigan Law Enforcement Memorial Monument design to be unveiled

LANSING – The winning design for the Michigan Law Enforcement Memorial Monument will be unveiled at a press conference Thursday, Feb. 8, 2007, at 1:30 p.m. in the Constitution Hall Atrium, 525 W. Allegan St.

Michigan architects, engineers, artists and students were invited to participate in the competition to design the monument that will honor the 529 Michigan law enforcement officers who died in the line of duty.

“Selecting a final design for the monument is a significant milestone,” said Kathy Cole, chairperson of the Michigan Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Monument Fund Commission. “We are gratified by the response and pleased to have a monument design that recognizes, honors and respects our fallen law enforcement heroes.”

The commission announced the competition in October and accepted entries through mid-December. Members gathered earlier this month to choose the winning entry. The design team will unveil the plan and explain its concept during the press conference. Runners up also will be recognized.

The new monument will be built in the Michigan Capitol Park, which is near the corner of Allegan Street and Butler Boulevard, and construction is expected to begin later this year. The Michigan Vietnam Monument and the Military Order of the Purple Heart Monument are also located in the park.

The Michigan Law Enforcement Memorial Monument Commission, which was created by Public Act 177 of 2004, is charged with oversight of the finance, design and construction of the monument. The commission includes four survivors of law enforcement officers killed while on duty, including Cole, the widow of an Ingham County sheriff's deputy who was killed while responding to a domestic assault. Other commission members include a police chaplain and representatives of the Offices of the Attorney General and the State Treasurer.

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